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Serial No. 10/590,218
Amendment
Responsive to Office Action dated January 2, 2008

KAS-5461

REMARKS

Pending Claims

Claims 1-10 are pending. Claims 2-5 and 7-10 are amended. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Akiyama, U.S. Patent No. 6,067,498, and Toru et al, JP 05-321809. These claims have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering moot the rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-5 and 7-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants have amended claims 2 and 7 to put them into independent form, and amended the dependencies of claims 3-5 and 8-10 to ensure that each of claims 3-5 and 8-10 depend from one of claims 2 or 7 as a base claim. Accordingly, claims 2-5 and 7-10 should be allowed.

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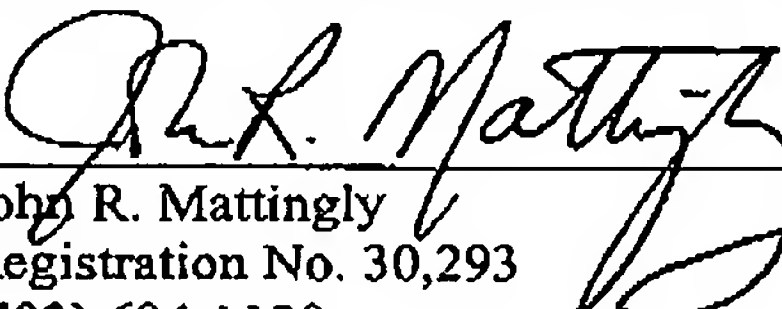
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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.



John R. Mattingly
Registration No. 30,293
(703) 684-1120

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